

Do not
enter VB
3/30/06

Application No. 10/806,802
Amendment "A" dated March 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 3, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sludge harvester for removing a concentrated nutrient sludge from a sludge pond comprising an aqueous dilute layer and a more concentrated sludge layer containing mammalian fecal matter, the sludge harvester comprising:

a frame;

one or more wheels or skids attached to said frame;

~~means~~ at least one of a pin mixer or auger for breaking up at least a portion of a sludge layer containing mammalian fecal matter adjacent to an aqueous dilute layer;

means for capturing at least a portion of a broken up sludge layer containing mammalian fecal matter; and

means for transporting captured sludge containing mammalian fecal matter to a location external to said frame.

2. (Original) A sludge harvester as recited in claim 1, wherein said frame includes a flat bed.

3. (Original) A sludge harvester as recited in claim 2, wherein said flat bed includes a plurality of sideboards designed so as to reduce at least one of vortexing, turbulence, and mixing.

4. (Currently Amended) A sludge harvester as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~means for breaking up at least a portion of a sludge layer~~ the sludge harvester comprises a pin mixer.

5. (Currently Amended) A sludge harvester as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~means for breaking up at least a portion of a sludge layer~~ the sludge harvester comprises an auger.